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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA** [US/US]; 4202 East Fowler Avenue, FAO 126, Tampa, FL 33620-7900 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **MOHAPATRA, Shyam, S.** [US/US]; 18510 Country Crest Place, Tampa, FL 33647 (US).
- (74) Agents: **LADWIG, Glenn, P. et al.**; Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Saliwanchik, A Professional Association, PO Box 142950, Gainesville, FL 32614-2950 (US).
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(54) Title: MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR TREATMENT OF ALLERGIC DISEASES

(57) Abstract: The present invention pertains to a method for treatment of allergic diseases by administering a natriuretic hormone peptide (NHP), or a nucleic acid sequence encoding NHP, to a patient in need thereof. In another aspect, the present invention concerns an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding NHP. In another aspect, the present invention concerns a host cell genetically modified with a nucleic acid sequence encoding NHP. In another aspect, the present invention concerns a pharmaceutical composition comprising NHP or a nucleic acid sequence encoding NHP and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In another aspect, the present invention pertains to novel fragments of atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP) exhibiting bronchodilatory and antiinflammatory activity, and isolated nucleic acid sequences encoding the fragments.



WO 2004/022003 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/28056

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61K 38/00, 48/00; C12N 15/11, 15/74; C07K 14/00
US CL : 514/2; 514/44; 435/320.1; 536/23.1; 530/350

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 514/2; 514/44; 435/320.1; 536/23.1; 530/350

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST, SEQUENCE DATABASE, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	HULKS et al, High dose inhaled atrial natriuretic peptide is a bronchodilator in asthmatic subjects. Eur Respir J. 1994, Vol. 7, pages 1593-1597.	1, 4, 5, 9-13, 18, 19 — 1-3, 6, 8, 14-17, 20-26
X — Y	US 5,691,310 A (VESELY) 25 November 1997, see abstract, claims 1, 2, and column 7, lines 1-3.	1-5, 9-11, 13-17, 20-24 — 12, 18, 19
Y	SEBIDMAN CE, et al, The structure of rat preproatrial natriuretic factor as defined by a complementary DNA clone. Science. 1984 Jul, Vol. 225, pages 324-326.	2, 3, 14, 15, 21, 24-26
X — A	US 5,840,341 (WATTS et al) 24 November 1998. See abstract, col. 7, line 6, and 44-53.	1, 4, 13, 19 — 8
X — Y	LOUZIER et al, Adenovirus-mediated atrial natriuretic protein expression in the lung protects rats from hypoxia-induced pulmonary hypertension. Hum Gene Ther 2001, Vol. 12, pages 503-513.	13, 16-20, 22, 23 — 1-6, 8-12, 14, 15, 21, 24-26

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"B" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Authorized officer

Q. Janice Li

Telephone No. 703-308-0196

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claim Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claim Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
Claim 7 recites the limitation "the expression vector". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
3. ☒ Claim Nos.: 7
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐
☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.